GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:76
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2008
AGRICULTURAL GROWTH
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contribution of agriculture to GDP has been declining over the years and is likely to decline further during 2008-09;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the rate of growth of crops production and productivity has also declined leading to poverty in various parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the growth rate of agriculture sector in the future?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.76 DUE FOR REPLY ON 3RD MARCH, 2008.

(a) & (b): The percentage share of agriculture & allied sectors in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at constant (1999-2000) prices during the last three years is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Agriculture & Allied Sectors	Total GDP	Agriculture & Allied Sectors (%)
2005-06	511013	2612847	19.6
2006-07	530236	2864310	18.5
2007-08	543984	3114452	17.5

The reason for decline in share of agriculture & allied sector is mainly attributed to faster growth in the share of manufacturing, mining, electricity, construction and services sectors in GDP.

(c) & (d): The rate of growth of production of all crops as well as their productivity measured in terms of Index Numbers (with base triennium ending 1993-94=100) for the last three years is given below:

Year	Rate of Growth in Production	Rate of Growth in Productivity
2004-05	-2.7	-3.4

2005-06 5.4 3.8

2006-07 11.7 10.9

Foodgrains production increased from 198.36 million tonnes in 2004-05 to 208.60 million tonnes in 2005-06 and further to 217.28 million tonnes in 2006-07.As per second advance estimates, the production of Foodgrains during 2007-08 is estimated at 219.32 million tonnes.The productivity measured in terms of yield in kg. per hectare has improved from 1652 kg. per hectare in 2004-05 to 1715 kg. per hectare in 2005-06 and further to 1750 kg. per hectare in 2006-07.

(e): Towards improving the growth in the agriculture sector, recently, the Government has taken following steps:
Launched the National Food Security Mission with an outlay of Rs.4,882 crore for the Eleventh Plan period. It aims to produce additional 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by the end of the Eleventh Plan.

Launched the Rashtriay Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), with an outlay of Rs.25,000 crore for the 11th Plan period which aims at achieving 4% annual growth in the agriculture sector during the Plan period, through incentivising the States to invest more in the sector.

Established National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) to assist and support in planning and implementation of programmes in the rainfed areas.

National Horticulture Mission is under implementation.

Provided additional financial resources for irrigation.

Strategic focus on the national agriculture research efforts.

National Policy for farmers 2007 was announced in November, 2007.